

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education**  
**Monday, January 24, 2005**

The Arizona State Board of Education held its monthly meeting at the Arizona Department of Education, 1535 West Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85007. The meeting was called to order at 9:15AM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Jesse Ary  
Dr. Matthew Diethelm  
Ms. JoAnne Hilde  
Superintendent Tom Horne  
Ms. Joanne Kramer  
Ms. Anita Mendoza  
Dr. Karen Nicodemus  
Ms. Cecilia Owen  
Dr. John Pedicone

**Members Absent**

Ms. Nadine Mathis-Basha  
Dr. Michael Crow

***Board Business***

Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence and roll call.

Dr. Diethelm introduced the new State Board members appointed by Governor Napolitano:

Mr. Jesse Ary, Public Member

Ms. Anita Mendoza, Charter School Administrator

Dr. Karen Nicodemus, Community College President

Ms. Cecilia Owen, County School Superintendent

Ms. Nadine Mathis Basha has been re-appointed by Governor Napolitano to serve as a Public Member.

Dr. Diethelm also noted that Ms. Jennifer Pollock, Assistant Attorney General, will soon begin serving as the State Board's legal counsel as Ms. Nancy Oyen is taking another position at the Attorney General's Office.

**1. PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH R7-2-101 FOR 2005.**

Mr. Vince Yanez, Executive Director, stated that pursuant to R7-2-101, the Board shall elect a President and Vice President at the first State Board meeting each year by written ballot. On September 27, 2004 the Board nominated Dr. Matthew Diethelm for President and Ms. JoAnne Hilde for Vice President. By unanimous written ballot of the members present at today's meeting, Ms. Hilde is elected as Vice President and Dr. Matthew Diethelm is elected as President.

Dr. Diethelm noted that Mr. Vince Yanez has been appointed as the new Executive Director and presented Ms. Christy Farley with a token of recognition for her outstanding leadership as the State Board of Education's previous Executive Director.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. December 6, 2004

B. January 4, 2005 Special Meeting

Motion by Dr. Pedicone and seconded by Ms. Kramer to approve the minutes for the above meetings as submitted. *Motion passes.*

**3. BUSINESS REPORTS**

A. President's Report

Dr. Diethelm stated that the theme of consistency and support will be continued with the primary motivation of continuous improvement of education in Arizona.

Dr. Diethelm will be participating in NASBE's study group, "Value Added Assessment", which will

utilize Tennessee's model that looks at the growth rate of students from year to year.

B. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Horne noted that AIMS is a Legislative issue which was passed in 1996 requiring that students pass a test to graduate and the Legislature has the power to repeal that law. He added that the State Board of Education does not have the ability to ignore this law. The State Board adopted a rule in 2000 stating that special education students would be exempt from this rule and the local district school boards could decide what the requirements for graduation would be for special education students. A letter has been requested from the Attorney General's Office as to the validity of the rule. Superintendent Horne stated that he is expecting the letter from the Attorney General's Office any day and is expecting that the letter will state that the rule is valid.

Mr. Horne introduced Ms. Robert Alley as the new Deputy Associate Superintendent for Assessment. Mr. Horne welcomed each of the new Board members and Mr. Yanez as the new Executive Director.

C. Board Member Reports

There were no member reports at this time.

D. Director's Report, Including Discussion and Possible Legal Action

1. Review of Proposed Meeting Schedule, Including Off-Site Locations

Mr. Yanez noted that the State Board of Education meetings for 2005 are scheduled to be held at the State Board of Education Board Room, however, members have expressed a desire to hold meetings in other locations around the state and they are welcome to consider hosting a State Board meeting in their area. Dr. Diethelm added that at least one meeting per quarter should be held in another location.

Mr. Yanez expressed Ms. Armida Bittner's appreciation to the State Board members for the experience of working with them for the past three years.

2. Other Items as Necessary

No additional items were presented by the Executive Director at this time.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Foster Children in the Public Schools.

Ms. Tracy Wareing, Policy Advisor for Human Services, Office of the Governor, presented the educational outcomes for children who are in foster care. (Please see PowerPoint Presentation included in the materials packet for details of the presentation.) Ms. Ruth Solomon, Associate Superintendent for Education Policy, Arizona Department of Education, noted that Arizona has a large number of minority student who are doubly impacted in this regard.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Consideration to Approve Contract Abstracts
- B. Consideration to Approve Acceptance of Funds on Behalf of the Arizona Department of Education from the Wallace Foundation's State Action for Education Leadership Project II (SAELP II Pursuant To A.R.S. §15-204 (A).
- C. Consideration to Approve Nominations to the Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee.
- D. Consideration to Re-Approve School Districts' Career Ladder Funding For FY 2004, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-918.
- E. Consideration to Budget and Accumulate in the Unrestricted Capital Section for Kayenta Unified School District.
- F. Consideration to Budget and Accumulate in the Unrestricted Capital Section for Red Mesa Unified School District.
- G. Consideration to Accept the Automatic and Permanent Revocation, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-550, of the Following Certification Cases:

1. Edwin Ngan, Case #C-2004-169
  2. Jason Pruitt, Case #C-2004-179
- H. Consideration to Accept the Recommendations of the Professional Practices Advisory Committee and Approve Certification for the Following Individuals:
1. Judeth B. Badgley, Case #C-2003-042R
  2. Marvin Knighton, Case #C-2004-11R
  3. Mark Louis Pena, Case #C-2004-194R
  4. Monique M. Vallery, Case #C-2004-171R
- I. Consideration to Accept the Recommendations of the Professional Practices Advisory Committee and Accept The Proposed Negotiated Settlement Agreement for the Following Individuals:
1. Russell G. Ivie, Case #C-2003-097
  2. Roberto A. Thompson, Case #C-2004-149

Motion by Ms. Hilde to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Items 5F, 5H2, 5H3, and 5H4 for further discussion and consideration. Seconded by Ms. Owen. *Motion passes.*

- 5F. Consideration to Budget and Accumulate in the Unrestricted Capital Section for Red Mesa Unified School District.

Mr. Lyle Friesen, Legislative Advisor, School Finance, Arizona Department of Education, presented the background information as provided in the materials packet, adding that Red Mesa Unified School District is currently out of compliance with the USFR.

Mr. Stewart Waite, Business Manager, Red Mesa Unified School District, stated that the district is within a week or so of completing the required audit reports. Mr. Waite gave background information regarding Red Mesa's location, school needs and factors that affect the district's budgetary needs. In addition, Mr. Waite listed some of the projects to be funded with the accumulated funds to include replacement of the vocational education building, subsidizing a school building program, a day care center and buses.

Mr. Friesen noted that Red Mesa could come into compliance with the submission of the reports unless the Auditor General's Office determines the reports are not complete. Mr. Friesen also clarified that funds cannot be used for any other needs than what has been approved by the State Board.

Mr. Yanez suggested that the State Board take no action until after the Auditor General's report is received at which time the State Board can reconsider approval of this request.

Motion by Dr. Pedicone to table the request by Red Mesa Unified School District to accumulate funds until the February 2005 State Board meeting. Seconded by Ms. Hilde. *Motion passes.*

5. H.2. Marvin Knighton, Case #C-2004-11R

Mr. Vince Yanez, Executive Director, State Board of Education, presented the background information provided in the materials provided, reiterating recommendations of the PPAC.

Mr. Marvin Knighton addressed the State Board stating that this has been a horrific experience for his family but that he wants to return to education as a profession.

Motion by Dr. Pedicone to accept the recommendation of the PPAC and approve Marvin Knighton's application for certification. Seconded by Ms. Kramer. *Motion passes.*

5. H.3. Mark Louis Pena, Case #C-2004-194R

Mr. Vince Yanez, Executive Director, State Board of Education, presented the background information provided in the materials provided.

Mr. Pena addressed the Board stating that former charges against him had been set aside, therefore he answered "no" to the question regarding arrests, not realizing this was incorrect. Mr. Pena answered questions regarding his past difficulties with alcohol and stated that he is working on sobriety one day at a time.

Motion by Dr. Pedicone to accept the recommendation of the PPAC that certification be approved for Mark Louis Pena. Seconded by Dr. Nicodemus. *Motion passes. Ms. Owen voted no.*

5. H.4. Monique M. Vallery, Case #C-2004-171R

Mr. Vince Yanez, Executive Director, State Board of Education, noted that Ms. Vallery is unable to attend today's meeting due to a family emergency.

Motion by Ms. Hilde to remand this case back to the PPAC for a new review with special instructions for the PPAC to pay special attention to the emails.

6. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no requests received at this time.

7. GENERAL SESSION

A. Presentation, Discussion and Possible Consideration to Approve Supplemental Rulemaking for R7-2-615 Regarding School Psychologist Certification.

Ms. Christy Farley presented the background information stating that a certification task force established in 2000 brought recommendations to the State Board regarding these rules. Key areas were reviewed leading to the current rule package. The docket was opened approximately one year ago at which time public comment was taken. Meetings were held with school psychologist associations, higher education groups and practitioners who do not currently hold a certificate. Ms. Farley noted that the Board's practice has been to bring the standards up as appropriate while not displacing those who have been practicing for a period of time. This rulemaking includes an intern certificate which does not currently exist so that someone who is enrolled in a psychologist preparation program would be able to continue practicing under the supervision of a certified school psychologist. It is acknowledged that some formal coursework may be required to meet the certification requirements but the practitioner will not be immediately displaced as long as they are willing to seek the additional preparation. The rulemaking also recognizes years of service.

Ms. Farley noted that this rulemaking moves the School Psychologist Certificate to a required certificate. She added that a great amount of research was done in the preparation of this rulemaking as to whether this Board has the authority to require this certificate, and in fact, the School Psychologist Association will say that when this certificate was created they assumed that the creation of the certificate implied that it would be required. In the meantime, advice to school districts has been that there is nothing in Board rule that requires this certificate. In addition, Ms. Farley noted that there is nothing in the Board of Psychological Examiners' authority to certify school psychologists. She added that Statute does implore that the State Board of Education is the responsible entity for studying the required criteria for this position. It was also noted that the Attorney General's Office has agreed that it is appropriate for this Board to adopt this requirement.

Ms. Farley added that this rulemaking may require additional steps but pathways have been established whereby these requirements could be met with fairly minimal resistance. In addition, the effective date for this rule will be 60 days after approval has been received from the Attorney General's Office and given the timeframe allowing for public hearing(s) and waiting periods between filings, this rule would not take affect until at least the next school year. It was also noted that some of the universities already offer coursework in this area.

Dr. Richard Morris, Director of the School Psychology Program, University of Arizona, addressed the State Board stating that there is a shortage of school psychologists across the United States and by 2020 it is estimated there will be 15,000 openings. Dr. Morris stated that he is opposed to this rule change noting that psychologists can practice in the schools providing services under their license even though they are not certified. Dr. Morris stated that he is in favor of someone wanting to go through the certification process but is not in favor of automatic certification because one has been providing psychological services to students and/or families. Dr. Morris recommended that registered, licensed psychologists be permitted to continue to practice and allowed to be certified if they choose to go through the certification process as outlined. Dr. Morris added that the program at the UofA for re-specialization is for Ph.D.s only.

Further discussion ensued regarding the programs offered at other Arizona universities. Dr. Morris noted the difference between a licensed psychologist and a psychologist who has been providing services to children under their own license and may not be appropriately trained.

Dr. Diethelm read the rule language as stated in C.1: "A school psychologist certificate is required for all personnel whose primary responsibility is in the role of a school psychologist providing services that include but are not limited to, the duties of student psychoeducational assessment, therapeutic consultation and intervention, and involvement in the process of determination of student disabilities or disorders." and C.3.a. and b: "a. A Master's or more advanced degree; b. Completion of a graduate program in school psychology consisting of at least 60 graduate semester hours, or a completion of a doctoral program in psychology and completion of a re-training program in school psychology from an accredited institution". Dr. Diethelm reiterated that those who are currently practicing and do not need the certification requirement will revert to intern status and will have two years to complete the requirements for full certification to hold their position.

Mr. Farley clarified that there is not a grandfather provision but that these expectations must be met.

Dr. Mary Stafford, Training Director for the School Psychologist Program, ASU, stated that they have a doctoral-only program or a re-specialization program with a two-year coursework and one-year internship requirement, which is equal to a Master's program. Dr. Morris stated that the UofA offers an education specialty degree program or a doctoral re-specialization program with certification.

Motion by Dr. Pedicone to approve Notice of Supplemental Rulemaking for R7-2-615, regarding School Psychologist Certification, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Owens. *Motion passes.*

Dr. Pedicone reiterated that the person who goes through the certification process will have the background necessary to do school counseling either at the Master's level, the specialist level or the doctoral level and no one should be able to get through the gate without that background. In addition, there is provision for a psychologist to serve in other functions.

*Break at 10:45AM. Re-convened at 11:00AM*

- B. Review and Discussion of Education Related Legislation. Items for Discussion May Include, but Are Not Limited To, Rule-Making Procedures, Board Voting Requirements and AIMS.

Dr. Diethelm clarified that as State Board members it is imperative when testifying before the Legislature to be clear as to whether members are representing a personal opinion or that of the State Board of Education and to include both the majority and minority opinions of the State Board.

Mr. Yanez presented an overview of the following bills:

- **HB 2111.** Currently, in order for the State Board to take action on any item, the Board must receive six votes regardless of how many members are present. This constitutes a majority of all members of the State Board. HB 2111 would permit the State Board to take action based on a majority of the members present. In the past if a majority vote was not achieved, the matter was tabled for consideration at another time. This bill was tabled last week. Further discussion ensued with members expressing the following:
  - Favoring a majority of the membership (six or more):
    - Mr. Ary
    - Dr. Diethelm
    - Ms. Hilde
    - Ms. Kramer
    - Ms. Mendoza
    - Ms. Owen
  - Favoring a majority of members present:
    - Superintendent Horne
    - Dr. Nicodemus

Based on members' comments Superintendent Horne will request that the chair of the Legislative

Committee withdraw this bill.

- Rules process for the State Board of Education. **HB 2433** passed last week in the Education Committee, which included language that is slightly different than that which was developed by the State Board and Senator Gray. However, the changes are primarily technical and can be worked out with the Department.

Dr. Diethelm outlined the process previously followed in rulemaking, noting that the most important step is that of getting public input. The most frustrating step in this process has been working with outside agencies for final approvals. Dr. Diethelm stressed that public input is very important and should not be minimized, but utilizing a method to streamline the approval process would be a step forward in the overall process.

Superintendent Horne added that this is a unanimously supported effort and that one public hearing could be added to the rulemaking process and the outside agency approval be deleted.

Mr. Yanez added that guidelines to the new rulemaking proposal would be developed to incorporate the changes in procedure.

- There are several bills regarding AIMS, most notably **SB 1069** and **HB 2294** which propose keeping AIMS as the statewide assessment tool but removing AIMS as a graduation requirement. Another AIMS bill would exempt learning disabled students from the current AIMS test, require the State Board to adopt a definition of learning disabled students and develop a separate version of the AIMS test for this group of students.

Further discussion ensued and members expressed their thoughts regarding AIMS:

- Twenty states require students to pass a test to graduate from high school and Arizona's students are capable of doing the same;
- Do not want to change the path we are on at this time;
- Learning disabled students need assistance to graduate;
- There are still many questions to be answered;
- Socio-economics is a factor;
- Focus and the level of standards have been raised by AIMS;
- Educators have improved in areas of aligning curriculum, accountability, and having accessibility to excellent professional development;
- Teachers are ready but students and parents may not be ready for this;
- Students who do not pass need to be aware of the help that is available;
- More public work needs to be done to involve students and parents;
- State Board members need further information before final decisions are made;
- The Superintendent will request that legislation be held until after the Spring and Fall test results are in;
- The Superintendent predicts a higher percentage of passing on the next tests;
- The test questions have now been written by Arizona teachers;
- Academies in specific content areas are being held in the Spring; and
- We are better off than we were in previous years but the stakes are unnerving at the present time.

Ms. Johanna Haver, writer and retired teacher, addressed the State Board urging them not to give up on the AIMS tests. Ms. Haver noted that as long as standards are upheld students will strive to meet these standards.

#### C. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Certification Reform Activities, Including But Not Limited To, Updates on the Performance Assessment Subcommittee.

Ms. Kathy Wiebke, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Highly Qualified Professionals, Arizona Department of Education, updated the State Board on the subcommittee's progress to date noting that next month they will present the first draft of rule language around the Performance Assessment. The committee

wants this process to integrate with the teacher's current teaching practice. (Please see materials in packet).

D. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve the Amended Arizona Education Technology Plan.

Ms. Kathy Wiebke, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Highly Qualified Professionals, Arizona Department of Education, presented the background, mission for the plan, and the amended plan. (Please see materials in the packet) In addition, Ms. Wiebke noted that the committee will immediately begin working on a new technology plan that will align with the new National Technology Plan that has recently been released.

Motion by Ms. Hilde to approve the Arizona Educational Technology Plan as amended Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-206 and 15-207 on behalf of the State of Arizona. Seconded by Dr. Nicodemis. *Motion passes.*

E. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration of the Proposed Modified Rubric for Professional Preparation Programs Applying to Receive An Institutional Recommendation Pursuant to R7-2-604 and Consideration of Recommended Changes to R7-2-604.

Ms. Kathy Wiebke, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Highly Qualified Professionals, Arizona Department of Education, presented the background information noting that this will be a three-step process:

- Preliminary review,
- Program review, and
- Site visit.

Details of these steps are included in the materials packet.

In February 2005 this item will be brought to the State Board for action, training by review teams will take place in April. June 30, 2005 will be the deadline for submission of all preliminary documents for review from all institutions that currently hold State Board approval and desire to extend their approval beyond December 31, 2005. On July 8, 2005 there will be a lottery to determine the sequence of submission of program approvals in an attempt to create a cycle.

Superintendent Horne noted that the most significant change is that 30 hours of pedagogy for high school and 45 hours for elementary school was the old requirement but now it will focus on mastering those areas that need to be mastered.

Ms. Wiebke reminded the members that this is a standards-based system where the measure is aligned with the following:

- Arizona Professional Teaching Standards,
- Arizona Professional Administrator Standards,
- Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC), and
- Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC) Administrator Standards.

Dr. Diethelm noted that it is critical that teachers be taught to teach to Arizona standards and Ms. Wiebke confirmed that this commitment is shared by the committee.

*Lunch break at 12:50PM. Meeting re-convened at 1:30PM. Mr. Ary was absent for the remainder of the meeting.*

F. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Determine Non-Compliance with the USFR for Bowie Unified School District No. 14 and to Withhold State Funds Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-272.

Mr. Chad Sampson, Assistant Attorney General, presented the background information as provided in the materials packet.

Mr. Bruce Brown, Superintendent, stated that if funds are withheld there are some programs that will be held back. Mr. Brown added that his belief is that most of the reports have been submitted and the final reports are in the process of being finalized. Mr. Brown asked the State Board for understanding regarding the matter of withholding funds.

Motion by Ms. Hilde to determine that the Bowie Unified School District is out of compliance with the USFR based on the reports of the Auditor General and move to direct the Superintendent of Public Instruction to withhold 5% of state funds from Bowie until the Auditor General reports that Bowie is in

compliance with the USFR. Seconded by Dr. Pedicone. *Motion passes.*

- G. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve a Resolution Of Continuing Effect Authorizing the State Treasurer to Maintain, Reinvest and Revert Any and All Interest Earned from Federal and Private Grant Accounts.

Mr. Chad Sampson, Assistant Attorney General, presented background information and a brief synopsis as provided in the materials packet. Mr. Sampson stated that as a general rule special grant monies are placed in special accounts by the State Treasurer. While there these monies accrue interest. Generally, the State Treasurer will remove the accrued interest and place it in the general fund. Mr. Sampson explained that the language in these grants requires that the interest earned be used for the purpose of the grant activities and by approving the Resolution of Continuing Effect, the State Treasurer will no longer remove the interest monies from these accounts.

Motion by Dr. Nicodemus to approve the Resolution of Continuing Effect as presented authorizing the Arizona State Treasurer to maintain, reinvest and revert any and all interest earned from federal and private grant accounts. Seconded by Ms. Kramer. *Motion passes.*

- H. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve the Curricular Framework for the Provisional and Full Structured English Immersion Endorsements.

Ms. Irene Moreno, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Academic Achievement Division, English Acquisition Services Unit, Arizona Department of Education, presented background information provided in the materials packet.

Motion by Dr. Pedicone to approve the Structured English Immersion Curricular Framework as presented. Seconded by Dr. Nicodemus. *Motion passes.*

Ms. Mendoza noted the importance of making sure this instruction will be available to all teachers around the state.

Ms. Moreno stated this should not be a problem if the curriculum framework is met. Ms. Moreno added that universities have set up institutes working with all colleges to begin delivering instruction.

Dr. Janet Johnson, Chair of Education, Rio Salado Community College, explained that Rio Salado has designed online coursework with videos of classrooms that utilize great strategies.

Ms. Moreno added that there are reimbursement monies available to teachers who take the time to get this training.

- I. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve Withholding Funds from State Board of Education Sponsored Charter Schools Pursuant to A.R. S. §15-183 (E)(3) and (H).

Ms. Kristen Jordison, Executive Director, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, presented the background information noting that Daisy Education Corporation should be removed from the list as the audit and questionnaire has been submitted.

Ms. Donna Sauer, Terra Nova Academy, addressed the Board stating that the school has been through some challenges including the servers crashing, key personnel left, and they have a limited number of administrative personnel. Ms. Sauer noted that the school is in communication with the auditors and stated that they were sure to have the items completed within the next 2-3 weeks and asked the Board for an extension.

Mr. Jordison noted that if the school were to submit the reports by February 5, 2005, no withholding would be taken. If withholding is taken, it is reimbursed upon receipt of the school's reports.

Motion by Dr. Nicodemus to find the listed schools (Mesa Arts Academy, Precision Academy Systems, Inc., and Terra Nova Academy) in non-compliance with the annual financial audit requirements and to withhold 10% of their monthly apportionment of state aid until a fiscal year ending June 30, 2004 annual audit and questionnaire is submitted as required by A.R.S. §15-914. Seconded by Dr. Pedicone. *Motion passes.*

- J. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve Withholding Funds from



Developing Innovations in Navajo Education, Inc. (DINE) Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-185 (H). Ms. Kristen Jordison, Executive Director, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, requested that this item be removed from today's agenda as DINE has met the requirements to date.

- K. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration of Actions to Correct Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Charter School's Problems Associated With the Reason(s) for the Issuance of the Notice of Intent to Revoke. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (3), the Board may vote to go into Executive Session for consultation and legal advice.

Ms. Kristen Jordison, Executive Director, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, presented the background information and settlement agreement as provided in the materials packet. The settlement agreement allows the school to continue to operate under close supervision of the State Board for Charter Schools with some specific requirements on documentation that complies with all the rules and regulations necessary. Ms. Jordison added that historically there has been a breach in the timeliness of report submissions but all submissions are now up to date. Ms. Jordison further added that the agreement outlines a corrective action plan to prevent the school from being in this situation again.

Motion by Ms. Kramer to approve the settlement agreement as drafted. Seconded by Ms. Owen. *Motion passes.*

Mr. Franklin Berry, Education Director for the Salt River Pima Tribe, asked for clarification of the motion and Dr. Diethelm clarified that the motion is to accept the settlement agreement.

- L. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Annual Science Testing For Fourth Grade, Eighth Grade and High School Biology.

Ms. Roberta Alley, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Assessment Division, Arizona Department of Education, presented the background information as provided in the materials packet. This would allow a ninth grade student to take biology and consider it a high school assessment in the 10-12 band. For the fourth grade, the approved articulated science standards would be assessed. Superintendent Horne noted that this is the first step toward statewide testing.

Ms. Alley outlined the timeline as follows:

- The mandate is for 07-08 school year testing;
- The first step is to develop the blueprint this Spring;
- Item specifications;
- Item writing this summer;
- Field testing in 2007 and 2008; and
- Be operational in 07-08.

It was noted by Superintendent Horne that science is required in NCLB but Arizona is not recommending it to be a high stakes test at this time.

- M. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Arizona High School Renewal and Improvement Initiative (AZHSRI): High School Focus Group Report Results and Update.

Dr. Karen Butterfield, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Academic Achievement, Arizona Department of Education, presented background and updated information as provided in the materials packet. Dr. Butterfield noted that four focus groups have been formed since August 2004 with a second state team meeting at the Rodel Foundation in December 2004. Some of the topics discussed included:

- Teacher training
- Well-rounded curriculum
- What is working
  - Knowledgeable teachers
- Areas for improvement
  - Quality staff development
  - Support

- Expectations
- AIMS: driving force for change
- Student challenges
  - Poverty
  - Divorce
  - New Technology
  - Business and Superintendent support
- Readiness for change

- N. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Correct Previous Board Action Regarding the Approved List of Alternative Tutoring Program Providers for the High School AIMS Tutoring Program.

Mr. Vince Yanez, Executive Director, State Board of Education, presented the background information noting that after the results of the RFP are completed, a special telephonic State Board conference call could be held at the end of this week or beginning of next week to approve the revised list.

Motion by Ms. Hilde that the Board rescind its previous motion approving the list of authorized alternative tutoring providers for the High School AIMS Tutoring Program. Seconded by Dr. Nicodemus. *Motion passes.*

#### 8. ADJOURN

Motion by Ms. Hilde to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Pedicone. *Motion passes.*

Meeting adjourned at 3:15PM.